Docket No.: 2593-0165PUS1

(PATENT)

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of: Takeshi KARATO et al.

Application No.: 10/577,830

Confirmation No.: 6227

Filed: January 24, 2007

Art Unit: 1796

For: SILICA-CONTAINING CONJUGATED DIENE

BASED RUBBER COMPOSITION AND

MOLDING

Examiner: Angela SCOTT

AMENDMENT IN RCE

MS Amendment Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

INTRODUCTORY COMMENTS

Prior to continued examination, please amend the above-identified U.S. patent application as follows:

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 2 of this paper.

Remarks/Arguments begin on page 5 of this paper.